CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

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LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Candle Product Safety

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 1997

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: October 6, 1997

PERSON SUBMITTING LOG: James F. Hoebel

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Baltimore, MD

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences

Linda Smith, Epidemiology and Health Sciences

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Approximately 60 individuals representing candle manufacturers, suppliers, candle holder manufacturers, testing laboratories, candle trade association, retailers, and consultants. ASTM will provide a roster with their minutes.

SUMMARY OF MEETING: This was the first meeting of the new ASTM Subcommittee F15.45 on Candle Products. The organizational meeting had been held on August 27, 1997. During the organizational meeting, the Subcommittee Chairman, Thomas Kreilick, had appointed two task groups, one on Terminology and one on Data Evaluation. Shortly before the Subcommittee was to convene on September 26, the Data Evaluation task group met briefly. The task group Chairman, J. C. Edmonds, expressed his hope that the Subcommittee could focus initially on labeling and consumer information issues which, he believed, could move ahead very quickly. He noted that a review of the data analyses presented at the August meeting indicated the importance of labeling and consumer information. There was a general agreement among the task group that this would be a productive approach, and that there was a continuing need to continue to discuss and analyze incident data, and that the Subcommittee would revisit the need to develop test requirements after the expedited labeling issues were addressed.

The Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Mr. Kreilick. He reviewed the formation of the Subcommittee. He was followed by George Pappas, Chairman of the Terminology task group. Mr. Pappas described the function of the task group, and provided a rough draft containing items to be included in a terminology standard with some proposed definitions. Considerable discussion ensued about the substance of some of the definitions, such as candle, petroleum wax, etc. The task group will consider the discussion points and will receive any written comments up until October 5, at which time they will construct a revised terminology document for review by the Subcommittee.

Mr. Edmonds then led the Data Evaluation discussion. The National Candle Association has invested funds into their contractor's data analysis, sufficient to require a special assessment of their membership. They are now considering a followon proposal, but have not yet decided to proceed. He believes that the data points to consumer misuse as a primary hazard. The task group's recommendation was to proceed with a labeling standard/guidelines, which will be simple and focused and completed in a short period of time.

Mr. Kreilick appointed John Root as Chairman of a new task group for Labeling. The scope of labeling should include candle accessories, and consider different types of candles. Mr. Kreilick asked that prospective task group members contact Mr. Root and provide their background and experience so that he can organize the task group. It was suggested that a CPSC representative be on the Labeling task group because of the substantial knowledge of CPSC staff in the labeling area. Mr. Kreilick hoped that this task group could produce a draft proposal or at least a status report with examples by January that could be distributed to the Subcommittee membership. Comments could be solicited and included in a document to be considered at a next Subcommittee meeting in April. The need for continuing interchange between the different task groups was emphasized.

A test laboratory representative asked if the Subcommittee anticipated working on a performance test method. Mr. Kreilick responded that this could be considered as a possible second generation standard after the Subcommittee addressed consumer use issues.

Mr. Morrissey of ASTM discussed ASTM membership and process issues.

The next meeting should be scheduled for mid-April, possibly at CPSC in Bethesda, MD.

cc: Linda Smith
Andrew Stadnik
Robert Ochsman
Colin Church